Hello, Northeast Ohio Counties!

We hope each of you had a great Labor Day Weekend. We had a great visit with Cathann Kress, Dean of the College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences, last Thursday & Friday in Northeast, Ohio. We hope this is the first of many visits to Northeast, Ohio.

It is starting to feel a lot like fall, and the forecast is for more cold weather in the next few weeks. Grain dry down may be hampered if the cold wet weather persists too long. Despite the cold weather we should expect our first frost a week later than normal according to Jim Noel from NOAA. We shouldn’t expect our first frost until October.

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David Marrison
Extension Educator
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Ashtabula County

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Dean Cathann Kress Visits Northeast, Ohio

The OSU Extension offices in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga and Geauga Counties were pleased to have Cathan Kress, Vice President of Agricultural Administration & Dean for The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) visit northeast, Ohio last Thursday and Friday, August 31 & September 1, 2017. During this trip, Dean Kress was able to learn more about the issues facing agriculture in Northeast, Ohio.

Cathann Kress, began her appointment as OSU’s Agriculture Dean on May 1, 2017. Previously she served as the vice president for extension and outreach and director of cooperative extension at Iowa State University. Dr. Kress has taught undergraduate and graduate students at all levels. In addition, her research and applied research efforts have focused on impacts on rural populations. Prior to her leadership at Iowa State University, Dr. Kress served as a senior policy analyst of Military Community and Family Policy at the Department of Defense in Washington, DC. In addition, she has served as director of youth development at the National 4-H Headquarters, USDA, also in Washington, DC, and as assistant director, Cornell Cooperative Extension and State Program Leader at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Among her many national leadership roles, she currently serves as a trustee of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation Board in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Since joining Ohio State, Dean Kress has been making visits across Ohio. During her trip to Northeast Ohio, she attended the Geauga County Fair, toured the OARDC Ashtabula Research Station in Kingsville, Patterson Fruit Farm, Cleveland Food Bank, Ohio City Gardens, and the West Side Market. During her trip, she also got to meet with leaders of northeast Ohio agriculture and stayed overnight at the Geneva Lodge & Conference Center.
Peas That Like It Hot
By Adityarup “Rup” Chakravorty
Source: https://www.agronomy.org/science-news/peas-it-hot

Farmers across the world produce between 10 and 13 million tons of field pea every year. That makes it a top legume crop, just behind dry beans and chickpeas.

But as the global climate changes and temperatures continue to rise, heat stress is becoming a major limiting factor for pea cultivation.

A new study indicates that pea plants with some specific traits – such as longer flowering time and higher pod numbers – may be more resistant to heat stress.

The researchers also gained new insights into the genetics of heat tolerance in pea.

“In some years, the older varieties of pea weren’t growing very well because of heat stress,” says Rosalind Bueckert, lead author of the study. “We wanted to find new varieties that have robust and consistent yields in a warming world.”

According to Bueckert, a plant scientist at the University of Saskatchewan, “tolerance to heat stress in peas seems to be dependent on quite a few traits.” The study found that two traits, however, are most important: higher pod numbers and longer flowering duration.

Bueckert and her colleagues Tom Warkentin and Shaoming Huang are the first to uncover the location of genes that affect heat stress.

“Heat stress means fewer flowers, fewer pods, and ultimately, lower yields,” says Bueckert. Varieties of pea that have more pods to begin with have higher yields after a heat-stress event. Similarly, “if a pea variety flowers for a longer time, it has more opportunities to have a higher yield, even under heat stress,” says Bueckert. That’s because the plant has more time to recover from extreme weather events during flowering.

But too long of a flowering time can lead to other problems. “You need the right balance of the vegetative and reproductive phases,” says Bueckert.

To determine which traits are important for heat resistance in peas, Bueckert and her colleagues crossed two commonly used varieties of pea, CDC Centennial and CDC Sage. Then the researchers evaluated more than a hundred new varieties of pea derived from this cross.
“By crossing two different varieties of pea, you may be able to breed offspring with traits beyond those of either parent,” says Bueckert. For example, some of the offspring tested in this study were more heat-resistant than either CDC Sage or CDC Centennial.

The researchers cultivated these new varieties of pea for two growing seasons in Saskatchewan.

One batch was seeded at a typical time for pea cultivation, mid-May. A second batch was started in early June. These plants flowered later in the year when temperatures are higher. This allowed the researchers to test for pea varieties that grew better and had higher yields in warmer weather.

“Identifying traits that make pea plants more resistant to heat stress is one piece of the puzzle,” says Bueckert. The other piece is better understanding the genetics of these traits.

Traditionally, researchers used visible traits, such as pod number, to select crop varieties that grow well in specific environments. However, mapping out the pertinent genetic information helps focus the work. Researchers can identify specific genetic locations for a trait within the pea’s genetic map. From there, researchers can more reliably select crop varieties.

“The more work we can do with genetic locations and molecular techniques, the more efficient we will be,” says Bueckert.

While flowering duration and pod number are the two most important traits for heat resistance in peas, the researchers are also examining other traits that can contribute. For example, “semi-leafless varieties of pea are better at dealing with heat stress than leafy varieties,” says Bueckert.

Future research will aim to identify more of these traits, and further increase our understanding of the genetic basis of heat resistance in peas.
Dairy Producers Can Enroll for 2018 Coverage, Secretary Allows Producers to Opt Out


WASHINGTON, Aug. 31, 2017 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) today announced that starting Sept. 1, 2017, dairy producers can enroll for 2018 coverage in the Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy). Secretary Sonny Perdue has utilized additional flexibility this year by providing dairy producers the option of opting out of the program for 2018.

“Secretary Perdue is using his authority to allow producers to withdraw from the MPP Dairy Program and not pay the annual administrative fee for 2018,” said Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Rob Johansson. “The decision is in response to requests by the dairy industry and a number of MPP-Dairy program participants.”

To opt out, a producer should not sign up during the annual registration period. By opting out, a producer would not receive any MPP-Dairy benefits if payments are triggered for 2018. Full details will be included in a subsequent Federal Register Notice. The decision would be for 2018 only and is not retroactive.

The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating dairy producers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the producer.

MPP-Dairy gives participating dairy producers the flexibility to select coverage levels best suited for their operation. Enrollment ends on Dec. 15, 2017, for coverage in calendar year 2018. Participating farmers will remain in the program through Dec. 31, 2018, and pay a minimum $100 administrative fee for 2018 coverage. Producers have the option of selecting a different coverage level from the previous coverage year during open enrollment.

Dairy operations enrolling in the program must meet conservation compliance provisions and cannot participate in the Livestock Gross Margin Dairy Insurance Program. Producers can mail the appropriate form to the producer's administrative county FSA office, along with applicable fees, without necessitating a trip to the local FSA office. If electing higher coverage for 2018, dairy producers can either pay the premium in full at the time of enrollment or pay 100 percent of the premium by Sept. 1, 2018. Premium fees may be paid directly to FSA or producers can work with their milk handlers to remit premiums on their behalf.
USDA has a web tool to help producers determine the level of coverage under the MPP-Dairy that will provide them with the strongest safety net under a variety of conditions. The online resource, available at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool, allows dairy farmers to quickly and easily combine unique operation data and other key variables to calculate their coverage needs based on price projections. Producers can also review historical data or estimate future coverage based on data projections. The secure site can be accessed via computer, Smartphone, tablet or any other platform, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For more information, visit FSA online at www.fsa.usda.gov/dairy or stop by a local FSA office to learn more about the MPP-Dairy. To find a local FSA office in your area, visit http://offices.usda.gov.

Managing People Instead of Things
By David Marrison
Dairy Excel Article for September 7, 2017

At a recent national conference for Agricultural Extension Educators, I came across an old magazine in a silent auction held during the conference. This magazine titled “The Farm Quarterly” caught my eye because it featured a whole section of farm management articles. It also helped that it was the winter edition of 1968-69—my first winter! It sold for $0.75 cents back in 1968 and I will admit that I had to pay about 20 times that to bring it home with me.

I really cherish looking back through old magazines. This particular magazine featured an ad on Harvestore silos and one from New Holland featuring their Model 975 and 985 combines with options for a 2, 3 or 4 row corn head. Allis-Chalmers also had an ad promoting the 64 horsepower strength of their AC One-Eighty tractor which was perfect for pulling a 4 bottom plow. Pioneer’s ad featured Frank Rush from Kansas City whose corn broke the 200 bushel per acre mark. Much talk was also given throughout the magazine on the new names for crop chemicals. Atrazine would now be called AAtrez, Simazine would be called Princep and chemical think-tanks were considering such names as Clobber, Wallop and Big Daddy for other chemicals.

I bought the magazine as I was intrigued by the special section in the magazine featuring 5 farm management articles. These articles were written to provide insights on the shifts in the structure of the agricultural industry. I was interested in seeing how relevant their advice was almost fifty years later. One of these articles really caught my attention. Titled “One Jump Ahead” it featured Dale Fraser an Iowa farmer, in his seventies, who was “farming full steam ahead because there’s nothing he likes to do better.”

The editor of The Farm Quarterly quipped, “We know of many men who farm to live and a very few who live to farm.” Mr. Fraser was one of the first farmers in Iowa to adopt no-till planting. Besides farming
over 2,900 acres he also raised beef cattle. Mr. Fraser was described as a man who farms because he wants to, grows because he responds to challenge, and innovates as a matter of habit. What caught me the most about the feature on Mr. Fraser was his philosophy of staying on top through the management of people instead of things. He summarized his management approach in three ways: simplify, manage by exception, and concentrate on people instead of things.

Mr. Fraser said the benefit of being his age was that he did not have to worry any longer about what people think. He stated he did not have to drive a tractor just to prove to the neighbor that he could. Instead he stated that he could afford to take the time to think about making his operation as simple as possible. One way that he made his operation simpler was to get rid of the plow and switch to no-till production. Dale made this switch when time was crunched due to a late planting season one year.

His simplistic approach led to managing by exception. He stated that a good manager pays attention to detail and anticipates problems before they become crises. Dale said a top manager needs to concentrate on those things which are “exceptions to the normal.” As a manager his primary duty is to manage the farm’s resources: to plan, to buy and sell, to finance and to supervise. Dale stated this requires mental skill, diligence, and an inquiring mind.

He stated that a top manager should focus on the things nobody else can do and let others do the things they are able to do. As an example, he shared that any of the men who work for him can drive the tractor or fix the planter better than he could. This allows him time to look for bottlenecks in the operation and to be looking for ways to make his operation more efficient and effective.

**Application for Today’s Farm Managers**- There was a ton of management information from Dale which still is applicable 50 years later. So, as the manager of your farm, I would ask you, how are you doing? Are you managing people and your business? Or do you allow things to manage you? How good are you at managing by exception? Are there jobs that you are doing that could be done by someone else in the operation giving you time to manage? How good are you at spotting, managing, and keeping good employees? Mr. Fraser would ask “Do you have the self-restraint to let them alone.”

Are there “sacred” practices that you do on your farm that could be put out to pasture? What are the bottlenecks in your business? Are you anticipating problems before they become crises? Do you think big, really big, and treasure the small? Do you place relationships above short-term or selfish gains? Do you find ways to accomplish goals by developing the potential of others? And ultimately, how well will you finish?

**Closing Thought**- The more things change, the more they stay the same. The article on Mr. Fraser could have been easily written this summer. I would encourage you to think what an article written on your management skills would say? Hmm, good food for thought. Peter Drucker stated, “Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things.”
Western Bean Cutworm Trapping Season Complete

Last week was the last week we monitored the Western Cutworm Traps in Northeast Ohio. We will return to monitor the cutworms next year. Thank you to the cooperators that allowed us to place traps in your corn fields!

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Last Alfalfa Cutting and Risk Management

By Rory Lewandowski, OSU Extension Educator, Wayne County and Mark Sulc, OSU Extension Forage Specialist

It’s the end of August and some alfalfa growers will need to make a decision if they should take another cutting of alfalfa, and if so, when. The recommendation in the newly revised 15th edition of the Ohio Agronomy Guide is to complete the last regular harvest of alfalfa by September 7 in northern Ohio, September 12 in central Ohio and by September 15 in southern Ohio. At this point, undoubtedly some alfalfa growers are saying that they have taken a last cutting at the end of September or early October without any harm to the stand. True though that be, the fact is that the last or fall harvest of alfalfa is a question of risk management. Sticking to the Ohio Agronomy Guide recommendations provides the least risk of an alfalfa stand suffering damage due to low root reserves. Later fall cutting dates increase the risk for stand damage.
All perennial forage plants including alfalfa use the fall period to build up carbohydrate reserves that keep the plant alive over the winter, provide sugars to keep the plant from freezing, and provide the energy needed to start spring growth. Photosynthesis is the process that produces the needed carbohydrate reserves. Photosynthesis requires green, healthy leaves to collect energy from the sun. The rate of photosynthesis in those leaves in the fall remains high. The issue with fall cutting is vegetative growth and recovery after a harvest cut is slow. There may not be time to regrow leaves and replenish the energy expended to grow them before a frost or cold weather ends the growing season. The worst time to take a last cutting is in the late September to later October period.

Growers also need to decide if they need the forage a last cutting will provide. If the last cutting is extra, just some insurance, the better decision may be to let the stand rest. Realistically evaluate the amount of growth out there. Is there enough forage to justify the cost of harvest equipment and labor? In terms of risk management there are a number of factors besides the last cutting date that need to be considered when trying to determine if and when to take a last cutting. Those factors include overall stand health, variety, disease resistance, insect stress on the stand during the summer, age of stand, cutting schedule/frequency, fertility, soil drainage and winter weather.

A vigorous, healthy stand is more tolerant of fall cutting than a stressed and weakened stand. This past year, many alfalfa fields were harvested under wet soil conditions. Ruts in the field and/or areas of soil compaction can reduce plant vigor. Damage to plant crowns from harvest equipment traffic decreases stand health.

What alfalfa variety is in the field? Are you choosing improved genetic varieties that have been selected to perform under more intense cutting schedules? Alfalfa varieties with high disease resistance and good levels of winter hardiness will be more tolerant of a fall cutting. Adequate fertility, especially soil potassium levels, and a soil pH near 6.8 will improve plant health and increase tolerance to fall cutting. Stands under 3 years of age are more tolerant of fall cuttings than older stands where root and crown diseases are setting in.

The cutting frequency during the growing season can affect the energy status of the plant going into the fall. Frequent cutting (30 day intervals or less) results in the plant never reaching full energy reserve status during the growing season. A fifth cutting taken in the fall carries more risk than taking a fourth or third cutting during the fall.

Another factor is soil drainage. Alfalfa stands on well-drained soils tolerate later fall cuttings better than alfalfa on moderately or poorly drained soils. Removing the top growth of alfalfa plants on heavy soils and poorly drained soils going into the winter increases the risk of damage from spring frost heaving. Winter weather is another risk factor. Plants with adequate carbohydrate reserves can withstand temperatures down to about 5 degrees F at the crown before damage occurs. For colder temperatures, plants are dependent upon snow cover for insulation and protection from damaging cold. How reliable is that snow cover? Will it be there if temperatures get to zero or lower? Open winters increase the risk of damage to late harvested stands due to the potentially lower carbohydrate reserves and less top growth.
Finally, if a last cutting is taken in that late September through late October period, leave some uncut comparison strips in the field. Observe what happens in those strips vs. the cut portions of the field in terms of spring green up, vigor of new growth, number of stems initiated per crown and first cutting yield.

**First U.S. Farm-Income Gain in Four Years Signals Hope of Bottom**


U.S. farmer net income is forecast to rise this year for the first time since 2013, suggesting a bottom to an agriculture slump that left profit at half of the peak. Producers of crops, livestock and dairy products may net $63.4 billion in 2017, up 3.1 percent from a revised $61.51 billion in 2016, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said Wednesday in a report on its website. Much of the increase came from sales of inventory in grain bins and higher revenue from livestock and milk.

“We’re sitting in this spot where we’ve seen things leveled out,” Chad Hart, an agricultural economist at Iowa State University in Ames, said in a telephone interview. “We’re treading water. Things aren’t getting worse, but they’re not getting better. The question is: Is this just a pause before we work our way back up, or are we waiting for the next step down?”

Signs of stability have returned to the farm economy. Farmland values may rise 2.3 percent following the 0.3 percent decline in 2016, USDA data showed. Cash receipts from chicken broilers and hogs were forecast to increase 15 percent with cattle up 5.7 percent, the agency said.

Two key measures of farm health, debt-to-equity and debt-to-asset ratios, will be little changed in 2017. That reflects the strong balance sheets of many farms that have had the same owner for decades, Hart said.
Younger and more highly leveraged farmers who have been waiting for better times to improve their balance sheets may need to wait longer, he said.

“If you’ve been holding on hoping for a turnaround, you’re just stuck,” he said. “But speaking more hopefully, we’ve touched the bottom.”

Hurricane Harvey, which continues to pummel the Gulf Coast, has damaged cotton and is threatening livestock production in that region. This year’s projected farm income compares with the record $123.8 billion in 2013.

A Bloomberg index of returns on eight agriculture markets has dropped 11 percent this year.

Improving Sentiment
An agriculture index on industry sentiment published by Purdue University and CME Group Inc. climbed in July to the highest since the survey started in October 2015.

The increase in farm income projected by the USDA reflects sentiment in the Purdue survey, David Widmar, an agricultural economist at the university in West Layfayette, Indiana, said in a telephone interview.

Income closer to $72 billion would be a sign of improving farm economy, he said. The USDA report suggests “we are not losing ground and hit a spot to catch our breath,” Widmar said. “The big wild card is where grain prices go in 2018 to service rising debt levels.”

**Farm Science Review Tickets Available**
OSU Extension is pleased to announce that Advance tickets for the Farm Science Review are available at all Ohio State University Extension county offices for $7. This year’s Farm Science Review will be held at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center in London, Ohio on September 19-21, 2017. Tickets are $10 at the gate; however presale tickets can be purchased at your local OSU Extension for $7 per ticket through Monday, September 18, 2017. Children 5 and under are admitted free. The review hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on September 19 & 20 and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on September 21.

Farm Science Review is known as Ohio’s premier agricultural event and typically attracts more than 130,000 farmers, growers, producers and agricultural enthusiasts from across the U.S. and Canada annually. Participants are able to peruse 4,000 product lines from roughly 620 commercial exhibitors and engage in over 180 educational workshops, presentations and demonstrations delivered by experts from OSU Extension and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. More information about the Farm Science Review is at [http://fsr.osu.edu](http://fsr.osu.edu)
Hello, Ashtabula County! I hope everyone had a great Labor Day weekend! It is a beautiful time to be out and about in Ashtabula County. In fact, now is the time that calls to our Master Gardeners increase because so many people are outside and see all sorts of “new” insects and diseases. Today, I would like to thank the Jefferson Garden Club and share with you two problems noticed by Ashtabula County residents last week.

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The Ashtabula County Master Gardeners recently received a $280 donation from the Jefferson Garden Club to revamp the entrance garden to the OSU Extension & Ashtabula County Soil & Water Conservation District office building in Jefferson, Ohio. The Master Gardeners renovated the entrance this summer by painting the sign, installing a new roof, and renovating the garden. The new garden features native and pollinator friendly plants. We are so appreciative of the Jefferson Garden club for providing the funds for the new pollinator plants. It has been really great to see how many different pollinators are foraging through this garden!

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Speaking of the entrance garden, Beth Cool & Joyce Zigmont from the Jefferson Garden Club recently stopped by the Extension office to present the Jefferson Garden Club’s donation and to view the garden. As we looked at the garden, Master Gardener Rees Davis pointed out some reddish bugs which were crawling all over our milkweed plants. Earlier in the summer it was cool to see the Monarch Butterfly caterpillars crawling on the milkweed plants but these little red bugs looked alien-like and mean.

So what were these bugs? Horticulturalists like to keep names simple which means these bugs are simply called “Milkweed Bugs.” Now is the time of the year which common milkweed is producing its signature spiny, oblong seed pods. Because of this, milkweed bugs are showing up in mass to feast on the seeds. One of my colleagues, Joe Boggs wrote a nice article on the milkweed bugs a year ago so I would like to share some of his thoughts on these bugs.

Joe reports there are two species of bugs that feed on milkweed seed: the large milkweed bug and the small milkweed bug. Both bugs have black and reddish-orange coloration. These warning colors help to ward off predators. Adults and nymphs of the large milkweed bug generally confine their feeding to milkweed plants while the small milkweed bug has a more diverse palate. Their nymphs focus their feeding on milkweed while the adults can be found sucking juices from a wide range of plants. Joe also reports another important difference between these bugs is
the large milkweed bugs migrate south towards the end of the season. In contrast, the small milkweed bugs overwinter here locally.

So are these bugs harmful to milkweed plants? Joe reports that although small milkweed bugs may occasionally suck juices from plant stems, they primarily feed on the milkweed seeds or seed pods, just like large milkweed bugs. Because of this they cause little to no harm to the health of milkweed plants. Just a cool bug in our garden!

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This is also the time of year when maple leaves are brought into our office which appear to have tar splattered all over them. In fact, our first sample came in last Tuesday! So could it really be tar on the maple leaves? Or could it be from my devious neighbor who I saw on his roof the other day? Or maybe it is new blight or worse yet, a sign of the end of the times?

Actually, just like the milkweed bugs, this disease is relatively harmless. Actually it is not actually "tar" on the maple leaves but rather a fungal disease called "Tar-Spot." Tar spot on maple leaves are caused by fungi in the genus Rhytisma. The most common species are Rhytisma acerinum and R. punctatum. So will it kill my maple tree? The best quote I have seen on the "severity" of tar spot is in Cornell’s Diseases of Trees and Shrubs which states “Tar spot of maple is one of the most spectacular – and least important – diseases of maples.”

Symptoms of tar spot first appear in early summer as infected leaves develop light green or yellow-green spots. During mid to late summer, black tar-like raised structures are formed on the upper surface of leaves within the yellow spots. Tar spot diseases seldom are detrimental to the overall health of infected trees. Tar spots may cause premature defoliation, but are not known to kill trees.

So what can I do if I see tar spot? Tar spot diseases are best managed by raking and destroying fallen leaves because the fungi overwinter on leaves. So if there is a concern, raking up the leaves and removing them from the landscape can reduce the incidence of tar spot in the future.

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To close today’s column, I would like to share a quote from Helen Hunt Jackson who stated, “By all these lovely tokens September days are here, With summer's best of weather And autumn's best of cheer.” Have a good and safe day!

**Lee’s Monthly News Column**

Hello Trumbull County! Sometimes the old saying “good fences make good neighbors” is definitely true. Neighbor disputes can often turn ugly leaving both parties with sour feelings
toward one another, and on the farm, they can be a serious disturbance to your operation. Communication, respect, and common sense will go a long way to mitigate disputes and potentially lead to resolution.

Property line disputes are common, but often times one or both parties do not know the correct property boundaries. It is advisable to locate and mark survey stakes, and if none exist you might consider having your property surveyed again. I also suggest walking the property boundary with your neighbor so that you are both on the same page about where your operation ends and where theirs begins. This is especially useful when the boundary separates crop fields that are in the same rotation and with little visual clues about the location. This is also a great time to discuss management practices with your neighbor because you don’t want to find out that they are growing non-GMO beans after an application of glyphosate.

Speaking of chemicals, drift is another common complaint among neighbors and the Ohio Department of Agriculture receives hundreds of calls throughout the year about this very issue. Following best management practices such as monitoring the wind speed and direction, nozzle tip selection, ground speed, and boom height will reduce the risk of drift and always follow the label. It is your responsibility to keep the chemical you are applying on your fields. Viewing the Ohio Sensitive Crop Registry prior to spraying will help you locate neighboring farms with crops that are highly sensitive to pesticides like bees, grapes, tomatoes, and other fruit crops. Again, communication with your neighbor is helpful so if you can, let them know when you plan to spray and let them know why.

Livestock owners definitely appreciate good fences, and the fences should be inspected on a regular basis to identify areas where livestock may escape and remedy those areas. Ohio law is very clear that livestock are not to roam free, and it is the responsibility of the livestock owner to contain the animals. When livestock get free, the farmer may be liable for property damage and could potentially face criminal charges. Criminal charges can arise if the farm is found to be “reckless”, such as ignoring a downed fence that leads to cattle entering the roadway causing an accident. To be liable in a civil suit, the farmer has to be found “negligent” in the due care of containing their livestock. Not inspecting fences on a regular basis, or securing fences that allow livestock to escape are examples negligence. Ohio law also presumes that livestock roaming is due to negligence of the owner, so it is your best interest to inspect and maintain your fences. You can read more about Ohio’s livestock containment laws here: https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/mon-06272011-1816/ohio-legislature-revises-law-livestock-running-loose.

There is another old saying that is just as important in neighbor disputes; “love your neighbor as yourself”. As I mentioned earlier, a little communication, respect, and common sense will go a long way to keep your neighbors happy. Besides, who else will you call at 6am when you get your tractor stuck with a load of manure?

Below are some events that you should put on your calendar for this fall. Trumbull County Master Gardeners are still bringing you free excellent educational programs every other Wednesday. Join us on September 13th to learn all about lilacs and then again on September
27th to learn how to properly prune your landscape plants. Both events start at 6pm in the gardens at the Trumbull County Ag Center in Cortland. Please bring a lawn chair!

The Master Gardeners will be offering a training class for new Master Gardeners starting in February 2018. If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener, please call our office and ask for an application.

Are you planning to attend Farm Science Review in September? If you are, stop in to our office to purchase tickets to save some money and jump the line at the gate! Tickets are $10 if purchased at the gate, but are only $7 if purchased in advance at our office.

For more information about property disputes, Master Gardener program, or FSR tickets call the OSU Trumbull County Extension Office at 330-638-6783 or visit trumbull.osu.edu. Don’t forget to check out and “Like” OSU Extension Trumbull County’s Facebook page for current programs and up to date information.

**Upcoming Extension Program Dates**

The following programs have been scheduled for Northeast Ohio farmers. Complete registration flyers can be found at: [http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines](http://ashtabula.osu.edu/program-areas/agriculture-and-natural-resources/upcoming-educational-programs-deadlines)

**Fertilizer Certification Sessions**
September 14 at Geauga County Extension Office from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**2017 Ashtabula County Beef Banquet**
Saturday, November 11, 2017

**Private Pesticide Applicator & Fertilizer Re-certification Sessions**
November 16, 2017 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Lake County
January 12, 2018 from 8:00 to 12:00 noon in Ashtabula County
February 2, 2018 from 8:00 to 12:00 noon in Geauga County
February 9, 2018 from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Portage County
March 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Trumbull County

**2018 Northeast Ohio Winter Agronomy School**
Wednesday February 21, 2018

**2018 Ashtabula County Dairy Banquet**
Saturday, March 24, 2018

**21st Annual Joe Bodnar Memorial Northern Classic Steer & Heifer Show**
Saturday, April 21, 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Website</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Marrison</td>
<td>Ashtabula County Extension Office</td>
<td>39 Wall Street</td>
<td>440-576-9008</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marrison.2@osu.edu">marrison.2@osu.edu</a></td>
<td>ashtabula.osu.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Beers</td>
<td>Trumbull County Extension Office</td>
<td>520 West Main Street</td>
<td>330-638-6783</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beers.66@osu.edu">beers.66@osu.edu</a></td>
<td>trumbull.osu.edu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Donate Crops To Support Charity

A tax strategy that helps local charities.

Donating crops, instead of money, can have significant advantages:

• The value of donated crops is not included on Schedule F, but the expenses are deductible on the form.
• There are no federal or state income taxes paid on the value of donated crops.
• There is no self employment tax paid on the value of donated crops.
• Yield records are not affected by the donation.
• Savings exist whether you itemize or take the standard deduction.

Keep The Money In Our Community

The primary mission of the Northern Trumbull County Community Foundation is to help in keeping our community strong not only for its current residents, but also for future generations. All donations are invested back into the community with this purpose in mind.

The Northern Trumbull County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF WESTERN PA & EASTERN OH

7 West State Street, Suite 301, Sharon, PA 16146
724-981-5882
www.comm-foundation.org
Cattlemen Feeding Their Community
A program of the Ohio Cattlemen’s Association in partnership with County Affiliates looking to serve their friends and neighbors.

THE CAUSE

Nearly one in six people in America struggle with food insecurity, one-quarter of whom are children. As cattlemen are stewards for their land and cattle, they also care for their communities. With quality protein being the most cost prohibitive item to provide for those that struggle with food insecurity, there are options for cattlemen to help their local food bank. Keeping the donations in your county can provide a great sense of fulfillment, knowing that you’re helping someone who lives down the road, you attend church with or perhaps your children play on the same sports team.

HOW CAN CATTLEMEN HELP?

Cattlemen can help out by donating beef. Does this mean that you have to pay for processing? No. Does this mean that you have to get a custom order? No. Is the donation valued as tax-deductible? Yes.

Tips for Donating:

- Plan Ahead – give yourself time to schedule a harvest date with your packer & give your food bank of choice a heads up
- Avoid Deer Season
- Ground Beef packaged in 1# quantities is the preferred donation for distribution, but bulk ground beef can also be utilized.
  - All donations must be frozen
  - Custom exempt processing plants that label beef “Not For Sale” cannot be utilized. Contact OCA for a list of fully inspected facilities that are able to be utilized.
- Opportunities are available for processing costs to be covered by the Mid-Ohio Foodbank or Ohio Association of Foodbanks.

(Please refer to the information below as to which you contact based on your county’s location.)

Many programs and organizations can get involved. Your county cattlemen’s group can team up to donate a finished market animal. We encourage you to make it meaningful. Holidays are a great time to help those who are less fortunate and good deeds are appreciated year-round.

FOLLOW UP

If you independently give to your local food bank, or team up with your county cattlemen, 4-H club or FFA chapter, or other agricultural groups, please share your giving with the Ohio Cattlemen’s Association (OCA). Be sure to grab a photo and we can assist you with writing press releases to send to your local newspaper to celebrate your community service.

CONTACT

Ohio Cattlemen’s Association
10600 US Highway 42
Marysville, OH 43040
614.873.6736 - beef@ohiobeef.org
www.ohiocattle.org

Mid-Ohio Foodbank – Mike Frank, Director, Food Resource Development
3960 Brookham Drive
Grove City, OH 43123
614.277.FOOD (3663) – info@midohiofoodbank.org
www.midohiofoodbank.org

Ohio Association of Foodbanks – Erin Wright, ACP Director
101 East Town Street; Suite 540
Columbus, OH 43215
614.221.4336 – erin@ohiofoodbanks.org
www.ohiofoodbanks.org

CLICK HERE TO VIEW LOCAL FOOD BANKS THROUGHOUT OHIO
Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station

Seeking Harvest Assistant

Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station sits on a 25-acre site in Kingsville, Ohio, and is one of eight outlying research stations operated by the The Ohio State University’s Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, the research arm of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Our role is assist OSU faculty and staff in their efforts to expand the knowledge of grape varieties and vineyard practices with trials in viticulture, entomology and plant pathology, as well as to serve the needs of the grape and wine industry along northeast Ohio’s lakeshore.

Seasonal assistants will assist research station staff with field operations, data collection, and ground maintenance. Operations may include planting and harvesting of research crops, collecting soil and plant samples, recording fruit quality and yield data, data entry, record keeping, pruning, and weeding. The successful applicant may operate agricultural machinery including mowers and grounds equipment, clean and maintain work areas, and other duties as assigned.

While some prior experience is desirable, employees will receive training in all required operations. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact the Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station at 440-224-0273 or email kirk.197@osu.edu by 8/15/2017. Visit us on Facebook, search OARDC Ashtabula Agricultural Research Station.